

**Rhode Island Division of Elderly Affairs
Home & Community Care Advisory Committee
MINUTES
June 28, 2016**

Attendance:

Charles Fogarty; DEA, Meghan Connelly; DEA, Melody Rodrigues; DEA, Charles Dress; AARP, Marylou Rhodes; RI Partnership/ Homecare, Kathy McKeon; Diocese of Providence, Regina Spirito; Tri-Town CAP, Verteal Patterson; AARP, Dottie Santagata; Cornerstone ADC, Diane Gallagher; Alliance for Better Long Term Care, Jessica Doyle; RI Attorney General, Kim Capuano; UWRI, George Dubuque; UWRI, Sylvia Bernal; UWRI; Kelly Lee; PACE/Carelink, Gretchen Bell; NHPRI, Holly Garvey; EOHHS, Sandy Curtis; EOHHS

1. The meeting began at 9:02AM.
2. The Minutes from the last meeting held on May 24th, 2016 were approved; motion made by Verteal Patterson and seconded by Charles Dress to approve minutes. Passed.

3. **Director Charles Fogarty- DEA**
DEA Report

- The Director provided an update on recent legislation specifically Fiscal Year 2017 budget which included additional funding for:
 - \$530,000 for Meal on Wheels
 - \$400, 000 for Senior Centers
 - As well as line item allocations for LTC ombudsman, respite, nutrition, and health and safety of elderly programs.
- He reported that an additional \$600,000 proposed by Governor Raimondo for Senior Centers was not included in the budget passed by the General Assembly.
- The Director anticipates that \$600,000 will be proposed again in the FY 2018 budget.
- Across all state agencies there was a cut of 11 million to the community service grants program.
- DEA along with Secretary Roberts requested the language allowing for the expansion for the DEA co-pay program be included in the FY 2017 budget. The General Assembly did not do so however, and DEA will request it to be included next FY 2018.
- The Director announced that DEA intends to increase the current Adult Day Care rates to align with the current Medicaid rates. DEA will notify ADC's once a plan for implementation is established.
- The Director announced DEA currently has 4 vacancies which we anticipate filling in the near future.
- DEA has two recent publication;
 - The Spanish version of the pocket manual is available by calling DEA or the POINT.
 - The Annual Report on Elder Abuse in Rhode Island was published in June 2016.

4. Sandy Curtis and Holly Garvey- EOHHS

Community Health Team RI

- The CHTRI is a diverse team that can assist with providing case management and many other resources to eligible recipients in the community. Eligible recipients may be a person who has Medicaid Fee for Service, Partial duals, medically needy, 21 years of age or older, and may have third party liability.
- Eligible recipients will receive a letter from EOHHS.
- Beneficiary's who choose to opt out will call the HPE hotline at 401-784-8877.
- Program is voluntary and beneficiary's can opt out monthly.
- Currently enrollment stands at approximately 3100 people.
- Information on this program can be obtained by calling EOHHS at the numbers noted in the presentation. Shayne Amaral 401-462-6392 or Sandra Curtis 401-462-6332.

5. Melody Rodrigues- DEA

Committee Vacancies-

- At a previous meeting a request was made to have committee members volunteer to participate in a workgroup to research the current committee vacancies and also to evaluate adequate representation.
- Kathy McKeon and Kelly Lee agreed to participate in this workgroup along with Committee Chair Nicholas Oliver and Melody Rodrigues and Meghan Connelly from DEA.
- This group plans to meet during the summer months and formulate a report to be presented to the group in September.
- A request was made for nominations for a committee vice chair.
- A nomination was made suggesting Dottie Santagata, who regretfully declined.
- This topic will be added to the September agenda.

6. 2016 Legislative Update

- **Charles Dress announced** - The Telemedicine Coverage Act passed in the General Assembly and is scheduled to be implemented in the coming months.

Public Comments and Announcements

- Committee member Dottie Santagata announced the first "Opening Minds through Art" exhibit will be held at the Warwick Cornerstone branch on June 28th from 5:30-7:30. This event will feature artwork from over 30 artists who participated in classes and the Cornerstone Adult Day Center. Dottie extended the invitation to all committee members.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10.02AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melody Rodrigues
DEA H&CC Coordinator
July 1, 2016